

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT NO.

25X1

TOPIC Military Information from Dessau-Rosslau

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED.

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DATE OF CONTENT 24 November to 12 December 1953

DATE OBTAINED.

REFERENCES

PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS.

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SOURCE

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1. On 30 November 1953, the barracks installation in Rosslau near Dessau was occupied by troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery and tank insignia. About 50 troops practiced with 4 guns in the meadows near Rosslau, between the Elbe and Mulde Rivers. About 13 trucks, including [redacted] were seen nearby. On 20 November 1953, 2 tanks engaged in driving practice in the demolition area between Rosslau and Luko. Motor vehicles seen entering and leaving the installation included [redacted]

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2. On 24 November, the barracks installation in Kochstedt was occupied by troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery and tank insignia. About 200 troops drilled in the fields near Kochstedt. About 100 troops engaged in drill and fatigue duty in the installation. Motor vehicles seen en route to and from the installation included

- On 12 December, the barracks installation in Rosslau was occupied by about 3,500 troops. Intensive training activity, mostly formation drill without arms and presumably involving recruits, was observed at the drill grounds in the installations. Fatigue details were reconditioning the training installations. About 125 officers and 600 unarmed soldiers wearing new uniforms with red-bordered black epaulets and preceded by a military band marched to the Elbe meadows, coming from the gouth section of the barracks installation. After the troops had been addressed by a colonel, they returned to their quarters. Beginning on 6 December, 50 to 60 troops with small arms and carrying full pack daily left the Rosslau railroad station toward Magdeburg aboard regular trains.

4. On 12 December, Camp Cross Kuehnau was occupied by a guard detail of 50 to 60 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets. The fence, which had been partly dismantled, had not yet been reconditioned.

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Comment. [redacted] observed confirm the 7th Gds. Tank Div in the barracks installations in Rosslau and Kochstedt and the 62d AAA Div (US) in the installation in Kochstedt. The information does not indicate any change over observations in early November by [redacted]

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